

--Fig. 14 is a sectional view, corresponding to Fig. 2 of the first embodiment, showing an absorbent article according to another embodiment of the present invention;--

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5 line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

--Almost an entire surface of the absorbent sheet 31 is overlaid by the top layer 10, and the absorbent sheet 31 and the top layer 10 are folded integrally. The above-mentioned barrier cuffs 40, 40 are formed by the absorbent sheet 31 and the top layer 10. In other words, the absorbent article includes means for attaching the top layer 10 to the liquid retentive member 30 (the absorbent sheet 31). The overlaid structure of the absorbent sheet 31 and top sheet 10 may be achieved by attachment using an adhesive agent or heat sealing, aside from a simple placement of the top layer 10 upon the absorbent sheet 31. The barrier cuffs 40, 40 are located apart from each other and the above-mentioned pocket portion 50 is formed therebetween. The absorbent member 30 (the absorbent sheet 31) includes means for attaching portions adjacent the barrier cuffs 40,40 (i.e. portions which are located outside the barrier cuffs 40,40) to the back layer 20. The barrier cuffs 40,40 are spaced apart from the back layer 20. The means for attaching the portions adjacent the barrier cuffs 40, 40 to the back layer 20 includes at least one of an adhesive agent and heat sealing.--

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6 line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

--The absorbent sheet 31 can be absorbent paper, nonwoven fabric, a pulp sheet made of fibers and a binder, fluff pulp, a sheet obtainable by interposing a superabsorbent

polymer a between a pair of paper or nonwoven fabric b (see Fig. 16), a sheet made of a mixture of a fiber (especially, hydraulic fiber), a binder and a superabsorbent polymer, and the like. A sheet obtained by admixing a superabsorbent polymer and fiber is preferred for its absorptivity for body fluid. The superabsorbent polymer in such a sheet may be dispersed either in layers or in three dimensions.--

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24 line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

--Furthermore, the fourth embodiment of Fig. 6, the fifth embodiment of Fig. 7 and the sixth embodiment of Fig. 8, and so forth, may include the same elastic members 70 as in the second embodiment of Figs. 3 and 4. For example, Fig. 15 illustrates the sixth embodiment, which includes elastic members 70.--

**Please add the following paragraphs immediately after line 22, page 3:**

--Fig. 15 is a sectional view, corresponding to Fig. 8 of the sixth embodiment showing an absorbent article according to another embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 16 is a sectional view of one embodiment of the absorbent member according to the present invention.--